

**Caveland Lending Library: Items specifically for visual impairment or blindness:**  
**Updated on October 25, 2007**

**Technology Solutions for the Blind or Visually Impaired**

**Aladdin Closed Circuit Television Reading System (donated by Karen Sutton)** from Telesensory (a personal reading system that enlarges print up to 50 times).

**DANA** by Alphasmart (a lightweight portable wireless word processing program that allows users to save up to 8 files and send to a desktop computer or printer)

**Braille Note in Qwerty (donated by Trish Johnson):** This was developed by Humanware and can be used by a blind person to have immediate access to word-processing, internet, and document retrieval. The display has a standard keyboard in qwerty.

**TI Viewscreen Panel with TI-83 Plus Calculator by Texas Instruments:** A solution that can be used with a light box or overhead projector to allow students to view the display of a graphing calculator

**TI Presenter by Texas Instruments:** A solution that can be used with a video monitor to allows students to view the display of a graphing calculator. The graphing calculator is not included.

**Wireless Mimio XI:** A wireless system that allows students with a laptop or desktop computer to access what is written on a dry erase board. Comes with wireless system, stylus, markers, eraser, and software.

**Bookport from American Printing House for the Blind:** A portable listening System that allows users to create and save files.

**Intellitactiles:** Standard Braille Overlays used with the Intellitools Keyboards

**Dell Latitude 510 with the following software Programs : Kurzweil 1000, Zoomtext 9.0, Mimio XI, Digital Microscope Eyepiece Program, and Encarta Premium Library Reference System 2006 (See Descriptions below)**

**Kurzweil 1000 created by Kurzweil Education Systems** is a reading software system that makes printed or electronic text accessible to persons with visual impairments. It turns text into a variety of real-life voices. Users can scan text, edit, and create documents assisted by an audible dictionary, thesaurus, or prioritized spell checker and archive them. Users can modify the display, speed, pitch, etc. Also, it retrieves

information online including electronic books, magazines, and encyclopedic articles. It is installed on the Dell Laptop. Also, 30 day trial versions are available upon request.

**Kurzweil 3000 created by Kurzweil Education Systems** is a comprehensive reading software system that enables students to be independent learners and active classroom participants by: supporting language decoding, encouraging fluency, aiding self-correction, and promoting comprehension. Kurzweil 3000 study skills tools make it easy to produce many types of notes and summaries for review and to create outlines for composing writing assignments. For teachers, Kurzweil 3000 offers quick preparation and customization of classroom and test materials to meet any curriculum objective and educational initiative. For example: documents can be scanned, one can use notes, color highlighters, and editing tools to automate the preparation of pre-reading and active learning aids such as vocabulary and question lists, use bubble notes feature, and customize features.

**Zoomtext 9.0 by AI Squared Co.** is a powerful computer access solution. It consists of two adaptive technologies- screen magnification and screen reading. It provides complete access to applications, documents, email, and the internet. A full version is installed on the Dell Latitude 510. Additionally, Free 30 days trial versions are available upon request.

**Premier Digital Microscope Eyepiece Program:** allows users to access a microscope. It comes with an eyepiece camera that replaces an existing microscope eyepiece. Included software allows users to view on a laptop or computer images from microscope slides. Images can be enlarged, rotated, etc. and captions can be added. Images can be saved for viewing later.

**Epson Perfection 4490 Photo Scanner:** a preferred scanner used to scan text into the Kurzweil 1000 Reading System Programs.

## **Tests:**

**Near Vision Acuity Chart 2000 by Precision Vision, LaSalle Illinois** ( a means to assess near vision at 16 inches)

**The Random Dot E (RDE) Stereotest from Stereo Optical Co Inc. Chicago, IL:** (a means of assessing 3 dimensional vision or stereopsis.

**Face Test from Goodlite:** test involving graduated cards, used to assess near acuity of children preschool in age or those who are cognitively challenged.

**The Face Dot Test** developed by Jack Richman (1988) and distributed by Vision Training Products, Bernell Division: a test used to assess near acuity of children preschool or those who are cognitively challenged.

**Teaching Guide for Development of Visual Learning Abilities and Utilization of Low Vision**, developed by Natalie Barraga and distributed by the American Printing House for the Blind: used to assess the visual efficiency in children in such areas as visual discrimination, figure-ground, visual closure, etc.

**Individualized Systematic Assessment of Visual Efficiency (ISAVE)** developed by Langley and distributed by the American Printing House for the Blind: a comprehensive program used to assess the functional vision of students with severe handicapping conditions and the developmentally young.

**ISAVE Grid**: Used with ISAVE to assess the visual fields of students

**Invisiboard**: a black Velcro board that can be used with ISAVE to assess students with cortical visual impairment

**Swirly Mat Set for Functional Vision Assessment**: These plastic mats are filled with glitter and other items and are useful for functional vision assessment. They can be used for locating, tracking, and color discrimination. They can be used with a light box for a different effect.

**Familiar Object Pictures**: These are from the Light Box Materials and are used to assess picture identification. They are large 4" pictures of familiar items such as clothing, toys, food, and eating utensils.

**Motor Free Visual Perception Test (MVPT)**: Developed for persons of all ages, it is used to assess visual perceptual ability without motor involvement. It is designed for screening, diagnostic, and research purposes and is intended for use by teachers, psychologists, occupational therapists, educational therapists, and optometrists. It is used to assess the following visual perception processes: spatial relationships, visual discrimination, figure-ground, visual closure, and visual memory.

**Developmental Eye Movement Test (DEM)**: This was designed to assess horizontal and vertical eye movements in children ages 6 through 13 years. A pretest and 3 subtests are included in the test packages along with normed information.

**Assessment Kit of Informal Tools for Academic Students with Visual Impairments** developed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (Qty. 2): a comprehensive tool used to assess the unique needs of blind and visually impaired students; contains three parts including the following: Part 1 – Assessment Tools for Teacher Use; Part 2 – Large Print Reading Assessment; and Part 3 – Braille Reading Assessments from the Basic Reading Inventory by Jerry L. Johns.

**Assessment of Braille Literacy Skills (ABLS):** This was developed by Anne Corn & Alan Koenig (2004) and distributed by the Region IV Service Center Houston, TX. It is a comprehensive assessment of literacy skills for students who read and write Braille.

**Learning Media Assessment of Student with Visual Impairments, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. (1995):** This was developed by Alan Koenig and Cay Holbrook. It was designed to be used to determine the primary reading medium and literacy media of students with visual impairments. It is distributed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

**The Oregon Project for Visually Impaired and Blind Preschool Children (1991):** This was developed by Sharon Anderson and is used as a comprehensive program used to assess and provide activities in the skills of Blind and VI young children. Areas include gross and fine motor, social skills, visual efficiency, etc. It is distributed by the Oregon Dept. of Education: Medford, Oregon.

**Color Vision Testing Made Easy (20002):** This was developed by T.L Waggoner and was designed to be used with very young children or those multiple disabilities who function at about ages 2-3 years and older. It is a screening tool for color perception and color blindness.

**Informal Reading Inventory: Primer to Twelfth Grade (2002):** This was developed by Paul Burns and Betty Roe and is used to informally assess reading skills and behaviors of academic students. Included are graded word lists and passages. It is distributed by Houghton-Mifflin Co.

**Sloan Distance Chart:** available from Goodlite. This is used to screen or assess the distance visual acuity of children who can identify letters of the alphabet.

**Lea Numbers for Testing at 16 inches (40 cm):** available from Goodlite. It is used to screen or assess the near visual acuity of children who can identify numbers.

**Lea Symbols Flashcards:** This is available from Goodlite. It is used to assess or screen the visual acuity of students who can point to or identify shapes or simple black and white pictures

**Papvii Book for Near Screening:** This is presented in a simple book format. It is used to screen the near visual acuity of young children or those who are cognitively challenged and who can point to or identify simple shapes or pictures.

**Woodcock-Johnson III Large Print Edition:** This is a full color large print edition of the widely used diagnostic test. This test was designed for ages 2-adult. It helps to identify learning disabilities or a student's strengths and weaknesses. It contains the standard battery of 10 cluster with 9 additional clusters. It comes with a set of glare reducers.

## **Teacher and Student Resources**

**Perkins Panda Early Literacy Program (2002).** This was developed by the Perkins School for the Blind. It is a program designed to teach children with visual impairments fundamental early literacy skills. Components include three storybooks with guidebooks, a cassette of each storybook, and activity guides. Also, included is a large stuffed panda with backpack that can hold a dual-speed tape player.

**Teaching the Student with a Visual Impairment: A Primer for the Classroom Teacher (2002).** This book and accompanying checklists were developed by the American Printing House for the Blind and are a practical guide for teachers, parents, and others who teach, love, or live with a child with low vision. The primary focus is to help the teacher in the all-inclusive classroom. Throughout the book, tips giving practical suggestions to teachers and parents are presented.

**Envision I with Telescope Array:** This uses funny stories and activities to teach students how to use distance devices. The program contains items to simulate standard street signs, addresses, international symbols, and familiar objects. Included are 5 of the most commonly used monocular telescopes.

**Envision II with Magnifier Array:** This is a comprehensive program used to teach children to use magnifiers for near activities. Included are 2 different manuals, one for children under the ages of 10 and one for children over the age of 10 years. Also included are activities and student materials. The magnifier array consists of 5 different magnifiers.

**Penlight and Mimi Flashlight with Colored Caps and Lenses:** This is used to assess and provide activities for young children and those with cognitive challenges who have extremely low vision. It is distributed by the American Printing House for the Blind

**Braille Too: An instructional Braille Reading and Writing Program for Secondary Students (1994.) (donated by Karen Sutton):** This is a comprehensive program developed by Nancy Hepker and Sharon Cross-Coquillet and distributed by the Grant Wood Area Education Agency. It is a comprehensive program to teach Braille reading and writing skills to adventitiously blind students.

**Mangold Math #1 (1986):** This is used to teach students to read and write Braille numbers..

**Light Box Level 1 Materials:** This is the first of 3 sets of teaching materials used with a light box. This set helps to teach basic visual skills, eye-hand coordination, and simple matching skills. It comes with a guidebook.

**Yellow Brite Line Reading Guide:** used to highlight reading material, developed by the American Printing House for the Blind.

**(2) Galilean 2.8x Monocular**

**(2) Reizen Dome Magnifiers 4x**

**Large Textured Block:** This is a 3 inch plastic cube featuring sides of six different colors and textures. It is used to develop gross motor dexterity, visual and tactual discrimination skills, and simple matching skills.

## **Books**

**When you Have a Visually Impaired Student with Multiple Disabilities in Your Classroom: A Guide for Teachers (2004).** Written by Jane Erin. New York, NY: American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) Press,

**Autism Spectrum Disorder and Visual Impairment.** This was written by Gense and Gense and is distributed by the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB Press). It is a comprehensive book at how autism spectrum disorders interact with visual impairment. It includes the following: suggestions and approaches to assessment, instructional, and program planning; forms and tools for capturing vital information; and information on assessment instruments, instructional materials, and web sites.

**Career Education for Applied Academics (1999) :** written and distributed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Austin, TX.

**Foundations of Low Vision: Clinical and Functional Perspectives (2004).** This was written by Anne Corn and Alan Koenig and is distributed by the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB press).

**Teaching Students with Visual and Multiple Impairments: A Resource Guide, wnd Edition (1996).** This was written by Millie Smith and Nancy Levack. It is distributed by the Texas School for the Blind., Austin TX

**A Paraprofessional's Handbook.** This was written by C. Miller and N. Levack and distributed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Austin, TX

**Calendars for Students with Multiple Disabilities including Deaf-Blindness.** This was written by R. Blaha and distributed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Austin, TX

(2) **Communication: A Guide for Teaching Students with Visual and Multiple Disabilities.** This was written by L. Hagood and is distributed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Austin, TX.

**Elementary Concepts for Students with Visual Impairments.** This is distributed by the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired., Austin, TX.

## **Videos**

**Tactile Learning Strategies: Interacting with Children who have Visual Impairment and Multiple Disabilities (2006).** This was written by D.C. Chen and J.E. Downing and is distributed by the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB press). This is an engaging and informative video that illustrates interactions with children. It provides a wealth of techniques to help teachers of students with visual impairment and other disabilities in successfully teaching communication skills.

**CVI Perspectives (2006).** This video was produced by the American Printing House for the Blind. It explores cortical visual impairment from 3 perspectives: medical, educational, and personal. First, Dr. Alan Lantzy presents a medical perspective. Second, Dr. Christine Romans presents an educational perspective focusing on characteristics and recommended approaches. Third, seven families talk about their experiences.

